

Atty Docket No.: JCLA5184

Serial No.: 09/417,497

as being anticipated by Lo, USPN 6,256,662. Claims 2-5 and 10-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected independent claim. Claims 1-16 remain pending in the present application and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Concerning examiner's remarks on the previous response to the rejection of claim 1 and the rejection of claim 9

The Examiner's remarks to Applicants' argument on claim 1 and 9 have been duly noted with appreciation. However, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner concerning the disclosure of "activating the scanner driver to perform a set of image processing routines on the primitive scanned image..." in Lo col. 5, lines 48-57. Below is the passage from Lo.

"Fig. 2 of Lo is discussed in Lo col. 5, lines 48-57. Fig. 2 illustrates a client computer 102, a scanner server computer 130, and a file server computer 122, each connected by a computer network 120 which are utilized by the invention. The scanner server computer 130 is connected to a scanner 144 via a bus or cable 140. Preferably, the bus 140 is a SCSI (Small Computer System Interface) bus or cable, although any suitable communication line, device, or method may be used to communicate between the scanner 144 and scanner server computer 130."

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Applicants respectfully point out that there is no conceivable reference to the activation of the scanner driver to perform a set of image processing routines on the primitive scanner image to thereby obtain the image qualities of the original document, of claims 1 and 9. Lo fails to teach the emphasized feature above and, as such, applicants reaffirm the previous response that the present invention for a method and user interface for performing an automatic scan operation that is not anticipated by Lo as stipulated in claims 1 and 9. Furthermore, Applicants stand firm on the preliminary discussion of the previous response to Office Action on the difference on the structure between Lo and the claimed present invention. Lo teaches the sharing of scanners and their operation within a network, but in contrast, the present invention teaches an improved user-friendliness method and interface for operating a scanner.

Respectfully, applicants request the withdrawal of rejection to claims 1 and 9.

Concerning claims 2-8 and 10-16

Applicants stand firm on the patentability of claims 1 and 9 of the present invention as stated above. It is also Applicants' belief that since claims 1 and 9 are indeed novel and not anticipated by Lo, all dependent limitation claims of such patentable claims are themselves patentable. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-5 and 10-13 are in proper

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condition for allowance and that the rejections to claims 6-8 and 14-16 be withdrawn.

Concerning rejections of claims 7, 8, 15, and 16

The Office Action rejected claims 7, 8, 15, and 16 based on the disclosure of Lo col. 13, lines 45-69, and col. 15, lines 47-56. Also disclosed in Lo is "[an] application program that acquires images, and in the preferred embodiment of the invention, is TWAIN compatible, although this is not necessarily required." TWAIN device driver is discussed in lines 45-69 of Lo col.13. It is worth noting, however, that this virtual TWAIN driver 106 is strictly discussed in the capacity of pre-scan applications. Lo col. 15, lines 47-56, discloses scanner parameter setting controls for resolution, brightness, and contrast. Discussed also, are exemplary modes including line art, halftone, and gray scales. It is also worth noting that these disclosures also concern pre-scan applications.

Applicants respectfully disagree that the disclosure within Lo col. 13, lines 45-69, and Lo col. 15, lines 47-56, includes a post-scan image editing application program- as claimed in claims 7, 8, 15, and 16. It is disclosed within the present invention that the final scanned images can be processed and/or edited by the application program 40, either an image editing program or a word processor (page 8, lines 16-19).

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For the preceding reasons, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection to claims 7, 8, 15, and 16.

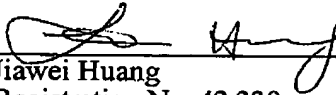
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and re-examination of pending claims 1-16. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to discuss the application.

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Respectfully submitted,
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